

She was elected as executive secretary of the Association of Polish Women in 1975. She has served as executive secretary and treasurer of the American Nationalities Movement ever since 1978. Ms. Morrow had the distinction of being elected the first woman president of the Republican Ripon Club. In addition, she serves on the boards of several other community organizations, including International Services Center.

Ms. Morrow has been well recognized for her work in the community. Her list of awards and honors includes: 1 of the 40 outstanding Ohio Women Achievers, presented by Barbara Bush; Polish Person of the Year, presented by the Polonia Foundation; Member of the Year, offered by the American Nationalities Movement; and Appreciation Award from the United Hungarian Societies. Both Mayor Ralph Perk and Mayor George Voinovich have presented Ms. Morrow with Keys to the City Awards.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating Irene Morrow on a lifetime of wonderful work for the multicultural community in the Greater Cleveland area.

LET'S ABOLISH THE TAX CODE

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I joined my colleagues, BILL PAXON, JOE SCARBOROUGH, Senator SAM BROWNBACK, and others to seriously discuss a repeal of the Tax Code. We agreed that the IRS and the Tax Code represent governmental arrogance at its highest level. It punishes the right things and rewards the wrong things. We need to shut down the IRS and put more money back into the hands of taxpayers.

Common sense tells me that the IRS is far too large and intrusive. Consider that the IRS has more than 136,000 employees, while the INS has only 6,500 border patrol agents. That's about 20 times more people to take our money than to protect our borders. That's simply outrageous. The time has come to abolish the IRS.

Mr. Speaker, improving the quality of life in America begins with letting families keep more of what they earn. In the last half century alone, the Federal Government's take from families has skyrocketed from only 5 to over 24 percent. Add taxes at the State and local level, and nearly half a family's take-home pay is spent just to keep government bureaucracies running. That's a sign of a nation headed in the wrong direction.

Lowering taxes returns power to where it rightfully belongs, out of the hands of government and into the homes of families. Today, I am pleased that our colleagues in the Senate have joined us in support of serious tax reform. I hope every American will support our crusade to put more money in the hands of hard-working taxpayers.

THE GREEDY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, a move is under way to let doctors force patients to give up their Medicare benefits so that a handful of doctors can charge them anything they want—without limit.

This is a gift to the greediest doctors in the nation.

Ninety-five percent of the Nation's doctors accept new Medicare patients and the Medicare fee schedule. The independent congressional advisory panel known as the Physician Payment Review Commission reports that this is comparable to the rate of doctors who are accepting new private, non-Medicare patients. In other words, there is no noticeable difference in access—ability to see a doctor—between Medicare and non-Medicare patients.

Doctors who accept Medicare and its fee schedule understand the Hippocratic Oath and the social compact in which society has paid hundreds of billions of dollars for the education and training and research that make American doctors special and in turn, these doctors accept the Medicare payment system.

But Congress is about to cater to the few who want more, more, more from people in their hour of illness.

The Employee Benefit Research Institute in its September, 1997 Issue Brief shows what a special gift this legislation will be to a few doctors who are out of step with their colleagues:

Recent findings indicate that only between 4 percent and 6 percent of physicians accepting new patients were not accepting new Medicare patients. One survey found that between 1991 and 1992, the proportion of physicians not accepting new Medicare patients increased from 4 percent to 5.9 percent (Lee and Gillis, 1994). The same survey found that between 1992 and 1993 the percentage of physicians not accepting new Medicare patients decreased to 4.7 percent. Surveys by the Physician Payment Review Commission (PPRC) also found that in 1993 less than 5 percent of physicians were not accepting new Medicare patients (Physician Payment Review Commission, 1994). The PPRC study concluded that the implementation of the Medicare fee schedule has not caused physicians to close their practices to Medicare patients.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I take the floor of the House today to honor and pay tribute to one of the finest institutions of higher learning in my district, La Sierra University. La Sierra, located in Riverside, CA, has been chosen by the John Templeton Foundation for its 1997–98 honor roll of character-building colleges.

La Sierra is one of only eight colleges and universities in California to earn this distinction, which is given to academic institutions that emphasize character building as an integral part of undergraduate education. Selection was based on meeting five criteria estab-

lished by the John Templeton Foundation: First, inspires students to develop and strengthen their moral reasoning skills; second, encourages spiritual growth and moral values; third, provides community building experiences; fourth, advocates a drug-free lifestyle; and fifth, conducts a critical assessment of character-building projects and activities.

In a society that no longer looks to religion and a sense of community as the foundation for a quality education. La Sierra University is proof that it can be done. Students are expected to strive to their full potential, seek the truth in themselves and everything around them, and to give back to their world. General education courses in religion and ethics lay a basis for understanding the importance of morality. And through the community service requirement, students learn firsthand the need for volunteerism and how important it is to give assistance to those less fortunate.

On behalf of the citizens of California's 43rd Congressional District, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the students, faculty, and administration of La Sierra University for being recognized as a character-building college.

IN HONOR OF THE CLEVELAND-MARSHALL COLLEGE OF LAW

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law on the celebration of its centennial this weekend. This anniversary also marks the dedication of a new law library on the campus.

The Cleveland Law School was founded in 1897 and was the first law school in Ohio to admit women and one of the first to admit minorities. Some of the more prestigious Cleveland Law School graduates are the first woman appointed to a Federal judgeship, the first woman elected as a municipal court judge, the first African-American woman lawyer, and a string of judges, mayors, Congressmen, State legislators, and countless other community leaders.

The college of law is Ohio's largest law school, and the only public law school in the city of Cleveland. The faculty is nationally recognized for its research and scholarship. The college provides students with a curriculum of traditional courses as well as opportunities to participate in four legal clinics, moot court teams, and two student-edited law journals. Now, the school also offers the new Cleveland-Marshall Law Library, housing the second largest academic law collection in Ohio. The library boasts extensive collections on many different aspects of State and Federal law, a large computer lab, and extensive electronic research capabilities.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in commemorating the centennial of this superior institution, the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and its new law library.